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PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

As the creator and guide of the universe, we turn to You, praise You and thank You for the visit yesterday that reminded us of our history and pleaded for renewed friendship between the United States and the Republic of France.

Yesterday, Lord, we were also blessed with the visit of the Religious Council of Jerusalem. Religious leaders of the three great Abrahamic faiths, Jewish, Christian, and Muslim, after their meetings in the Holy City were moved by Your spirit acting within them to come to Capitol Hill. Here they gave witness to common concerns and prayerful hopes for peace in the Holy City where they live.

Lord, hear their prayer, lest the rocks themselves cry out with the anguished cry of Your people who seek justice and reconciliation.

May the mindful process and experience of this interfaith Council of Jerusalem be imitated across our Nation and in the Holy Land so that mutual understanding can build trust. Without compromising religious faith, they are on the road to peace by creating common agreement on principles and formulating a common language in secular terms. Thus will they together give You glory, now and forever. Amen.
